

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 have been examined. Claims 3-5, 14, 17 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Also, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1, 2, 6-12, 15, 16, 18-20 and 22-28 are allowed.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 3-5, 14, 17 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over EP 0827838 to Kitahara et al. ("Kitahara"), U.S. Patent No. 5,363,134 to Barbehenn et al. ("Barbehenn") and JP 11-058704 to Takahiro et al. ("Takahiro").

A. Claim 3

Claim 3 recites that M drive signals are selected from the N "serial" drive signals based on the associated correction data, M being an integer which is equal to or less than N, and where $N > 1$.

On pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner maintains that N could equal "1", such that M would also equal "1". However, as set forth above, claim 3 recites that $N > 1$. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 3 is patentable over the cited references for at least analogous reasons as allowable claims 1, 6 and 8.

B. Claims 4, 5, 14, 17 and 21

Since claims 4, 5, 14, 17 and 21 are dependent upon claim 3, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/816,770

Allowable Subject Matter

As stated above, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1, 2, 6-12, 15, 16, 18-20 and 22-28 are allowed.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

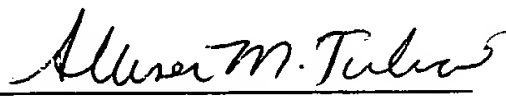
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER


Allison M. Tulino
Registration No. 48,294

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